

AMENDMENTS OF THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following new paragraph at p. 8, immediately after the paragraph that begins "FIG. 6 is an illustration . . . :"

FIG. 7 is a simplified block diagram of an apparatus for detecting and suppressing ringing artifacts according to the present invention.

Please replace the paragraph at page 13, lines 8-25 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 4 illustrates an exemplary embodiment of the ratio calculation performed at step 54 of FIG. 3. Initially, at step 72, the difference between the two inner adjacent input samples is calculated ( $\text{slope1} = f1 - f0$ ). Similarly, at step 74, the difference between the two outer input samples is calculated ( $\text{step} = f2 - f-1$ ). Once these two values ( $\text{slope1}$  and  $\text{step}$ ) have been calculated, a test is performed at step 76 to determine if the value of  $\text{slope1}$  is less than the value of zero. If  $\text{slope1}$  is less than zero, the ratio is normalized at step 78. Normalization is performed by multiplying both the denominator and numerator of equation (2) ( $\text{slope1}$  and  $\text{step}$ , respectively) by negative one ( $\text{slope\_denom} = (-1) * \text{slope1}$  and  $\text{slope\_num} = (-1) * \text{step}$ ). If  $\text{slope1}$  is not less than zero, then  $\text{slope1}$  and  $\text{step}$  are assigned the values of the denominator and numerator ( $\text{slope\_denom} = \text{slope1}$  and  $\text{slope\_num} = \text{step}$ ), respectively, at step 79.

Please add the following new paragraph at p. 15, immediately before the paragraph that begins "Referring to FIG. 3 . . . .:"

FIG. 7 is a simplified block diagram of an apparatus for detecting and suppressing ringing artifacts according to the present invention. The apparatus includes a processor 700 configured to perform the steps in FIGS. 4 and 5 described above.